

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1, 4-7, 10, and 12 have been amended as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An integrated heat spreader constructed and arranged to be adhesively affixed, with a sealant, to at least a portion of a component, comprising:
 - a body portion;
 - a solid continuous lip portion substantially vertically oriented relative to the body portion; and
 - a plurality of step portions adjacent to the lip portion, wherein the plurality of step portions are spaced apart by a plurality of cutouts ~~the step portion has a plurality of cutouts or a plurality of holes or bores therein.~~
2. (Canceled)
3. (Canceled)
4. (Currently Amended) The integrated heat spreader of claim 1, wherein the plurality of step portions are non-uniformly spaced ~~is irregularly shaped.~~
5. (Currently Amended) The integrated heat spreader of claim 1, wherein the plurality of step portions ~~is~~ formed of copper or aluminum.
6. (Currently Amended) The integrated heat spreader of claim 1, wherein the plurality of step portions ~~is~~ formed of a carbon/carbon composite.
7. (Currently Amended) The integrated heat spreader of claim 1, wherein the plurality of step portions ~~is~~ formed of a carbon/metal composite.

8. (Original) The integrated heat spreader of claim 7, wherein the carbon/metal composite comprises a matrix fiber reinforced composite.
9. (Original) The integrated heat spreader of claim 7, wherein the carbon/metal composite comprises a carbon/copper composite.
10. (Currently Amended) The integrated heat spreader of claim 1, further comprising a coating applied to the plurality of step portions.
11. (Original) The integrated heat spreader of claim 10, wherein the coating comprises nickel.
12. (Currently Amended) The integrated heat spreader of claim 1, further comprising a plated portion integrally formed with the plurality of step portions.
13. (Original) The integrated heat spreader of claim 12, wherein the plated portion is formed of gold, silver, tin, nickel, or a metal composite.
14. (Original) The integrated heat spreader of claim 1, wherein the sealant is silicone-based or epoxy-based.
15. (Original) The integrated heat spreader of claim 1, wherein the component comprises a substrate.
16. (Original) The integrated heat spreader of claim 1, wherein the body portion comprises a substantially rectangular or square frame.
17. (Original) The integrated heat spreader of claim 1, further comprising a thermal interface material (TIM) interposing a die and the body portion, the TIM comprising one of solder, a polymer/solder composite, and a polymer.

Dale

18 - 25 (Canceled in February 7, 2003 Amendment)

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